

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, EMIN, RP

SUBJECT: ATLAS VIEWS ON COPPER SMELTER PROJECT

REF: A) MANILA 4366 B) MANILA 4789

1. EMBOFF HAS DISCUSSED THE COPPER SMELTER CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES PROJECT WITH C.D. CLARKE, EXECUTIVE V.P. AND DIRECTOR, AND R.C. TEMPS, DIRECTOR, SMELTER REFINERY PROJECT, ATLAS CONSOLIDATED MINING AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. ATLAS, WHICH WAS ASKED TO FOREGO ITS OWN SMELTER PROJECT BY THE GOVERNMENT, IS NOW INVOLVED, WITH OTHER PHILIPPINE COPPER CONCENTRATE PRODUCERS, IN STUDYING THE SMELTER PROPOSAL OF THE CSCP. (DESCRIBED REFTEL B).

2. THE ATLAS PEOPLE ARE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED THAT THE CSCP GROUP IS TOO LOCKED INTO A PARTICULAR SMELTER PROCESS, DESIGN, AND SUPPLIER AT TOO EARLY A DATE WITHOUT CONSIDERING ADEQUATELY OTHER ALTERNATIVES. THEY ALSO NOTE IT IS UNUSUAL IN A PROJECT OF THIS SCOPE NOT TO HAVE THE MANAGEMENT: CUSTOMER REPRESENTED BY INDEPENDENT ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS. ATLAS TECHNICIANS, WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING ON ATLAS' OWN PROJECT FOR OVER TWO YEARS, FEEL THE DAVY/

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SYBETRA PROJECT IS OVER-DESIGNED WITH AN EYE MORE TO GENERATING

EQUIPMENT SALES THAN TO CREATING THE BEST POSSIBLE SMELTER FOR THE PHILIPPINES. THE ATLAS MEN CONCEDE THEY ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY GETTING THIS POINT ACROSS TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE STUDY GROUP BECAUSE, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, THEIR PROFESSED OBJECTIVE ADVICE IS TAKEN AS SOUR GRAPES.

3. ATLAS REPRESENTATIVES STRESS THAT THEIR PROJECT IS NOT CANCELLED, JUST POSTPONED. HOWEVER, FOR REASONS REPORTED REFTEL A, ATLAS DOES NOT REALLY MIND FOREGOING ITS OWN SMELTER PROJECT FOR THE MOMENT.
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Message Attributes

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